



CLASSIFIEDS

CARS

JOBS

HOMES

APARTMENTS

NJ LOTTERY

SUBSCRIBE

PRESSPIX

DATING

ShopLocal

JERSEY SHORE GUIDE



E-mail to a friend



Printer-friendly version



Subscribe now

[CUST. SERVICE »](#)[WEB EXTRAS »](#)[STORY ARCHIVE »](#)[HOME](#)[MONMOUTH](#)[OCEAN](#)[STATE](#)[SPORTS](#)[NATION/WORLD](#)[POLITICS](#)[OPINION](#)[BUSINESS](#)[ENTERTAINMENT](#)[JERSEY LIFE](#)[TRAVEL](#)[FISHING](#)[HEALTH](#)[ON THE RUN](#)[SENIOR SCOOP](#)[PLUS FIFTY](#)[SHORE](#)[COMMUNITY](#)[COMUNIDAD](#)[TROUBLE SHOOTER](#)[DAY IN THE LIFE](#)[PHOTOGRAPHY](#)[OBITUARIES](#)[CORRECTIONS](#)[AD FLIERS](#)[CONTACT US](#)[WORK FOR US](#)[CONTESTS](#)

- [Win a Grand](#)

[EDUCATION](#)

- [Newspaper in Education Program](#)

[MERCHANDISE](#)

- [Newspaper Store](#)

[PROMOTIONS](#)

- [Earn \\$600/mo.](#)
- [Kids Stuff Club](#)
- [Whatever Club](#)

[MARKETPLACE](#)

- [Local Coupons](#)
- [Fishing](#)

Offshore drilling off limits

Published in the Asbury Park Press 06/15/05

In weighing the potential yield of drilling for oil and natural gas off the New Jersey coast against the role the ocean plays in the state's economy, the choice is clear. The state's federal and state legislators of both parties must oppose the energy bill in the U.S. Senate that would allow an inventory of possible fossil-fuel resources off the nation's coastlines.

- advertisements -

Conducting an inventory and the drilling that may follow could lead to oil spills and fish kills, and disrupt the ocean's delicate ecological balance, U.S. Sen. Jon S. Corzine, D-N.J., said Monday in Belmar. And there's nothing pretty about an oil derrick. The loss in tourism that could result is something the state can't afford. Tourism generates more than \$5.5 billion a year in tax revenue and is responsible for more than 836,000 jobs, Corzine said.

The inventory is a waste of time and money, said Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., D-N.J. It duplicates previous studies, and there is about 30 times more oil and natural gas in areas approved for drilling, such as the Gulf of Mexico, as the potential reserves off the Eastern seaboard, he said.

Environmentalists view the inventory as the first step toward drilling for natural resources by the Bush administration. They would prefer initiatives, as would we, that emphasize conservation of those resources. One option they suggest makes particularly good sense: requiring more fuel-efficient motor vehicles.

"This administration isn't interested in conservation," said Leann Foster-Sitar, policy director of the American Littoral Society at Sandy Hook. "We say, 'Hands off our coast.' The moratorium must remain intact."

That moratorium on offshore oil and natural gas drilling has lasted 24 years. It has helped preserve the ocean ecology and prevent a devastating blow to the New Jersey economy. If the Bush administration is looking for new fossil-fuel supplies to meet energy demand, it shouldn't look here.

[Go Back](#) | [Subscribe to the Asbury Park Press](#)

- [Restaurants](#)
- [Special Sections](#)
- [Virtually Everything](#)

ADVERTISING

- [Product Rates](#)

LISTINGS

- [Jersey Autos](#)
- [Submit Club/Bar](#)

[Schedules](#)

- [Nursing](#)
- [Teaching](#)
- [Mother's Day](#)
- [Weddings](#)
- [Engagements](#)
- [Anniversaries](#)
- [Celebrations](#)
- [Dating](#)
- [Births](#)
- [In Remembrance](#)
- and [Thank You's](#)
- [Hot Properties](#)

GANNETT NJ NEWSPAPERS

- [Asbury Park Press](#)
- [Gannett State](#)

[Bureau](#)

- [Courier News](#)
- [Courier-Post](#)
- [The Daily Journal](#)
- [Daily Record](#)
- [Home News Tribune](#)
- [Ocean County](#)

[Observer](#)

- [Times Beacon](#)

[Newspapers](#)

- [Other Gannett](#)

[Newspapers](#)



Copyright © 2005 Asbury Park Press. All rights reserved.
Use of this site indicates your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#). (Updated 4/13/05)
Site design by [Asbury Park Press](#) / [Contact us](#)